

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin J. Dunleavy on 08/04/08 and 08/06/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 36 and 42. Therefore, claims 36 and 42 have been cancelled

In claims 22 and 39, delete "." and insert -- wherein a ratio of a thickness of said non-piezoelectric layer to a thickness of said piezoelectric layer is from about 0.1 to about 3.0--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record taken alone and in combination does not disclose "an apparatus for sensing mass comprising: a non-piezoelectric layer, a piezoelectric layer bonded to said non-piezoelectric layer, wherein a length of one of said piezoelectric layer and said non-piezoelectric layer is less than a length of another of said piezoelectric layer and non-piezoelectric layer, wherein a ratio of a thickness of said non-piezoelectric layer to a thickness of said piezoelectric layer is from about 0.1 to about 3.0" as recited in claim 1. These limitations are neither taught nor made obvious by the prior art of record

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J M. SAINT SURIN whose telephone number is (571)272-2206. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays to Fridays between 9:30 A.M and 6:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron L. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-2208. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jacques M SAINT SURIN/
Examiner, Art Unit 2856
August 06, 2008
/Hezron Williams/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2856